

# LAKE PROTECTION AND CLASSIFICATION GRANTS

**Authorization:** ss. 281.69 and 281.71, Wis. Stats.; ch. NR 191, Wis. Admin. Code

**Budget:** 2003-2004 Fiscal Year = \$2 million  
2004-2005 Fiscal Year = \$2 million

**Objective:** To protect and improve the water quality of lakes and their ecosystems.

**Eligibility:**

- ◆ Counties, cities, towns, villages, tribes, qualified lake associations [as defined in s. 281.68(1)(b), Wis. Stats.];
- ◆ Public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts, town sanitary districts, other local governmental units [as defined in s. 66.299(1)(a), Wis. Stats.] that are established for the purpose of lake management; and
- ◆ Qualified nonprofit conservation organizations [as defined in s. 23.0955(1), Wis. Stats.].

**Level of Assistance:** 75% of project costs up to a maximum grant amount of \$200,000, except for the development of local regulations or ordinances and lake classification projects which are eligible for a maximum grant amount of \$50,000.

**Priorities:** Priorities are set on a statewide basis (see s. NR 191.08, Wis. Admin. Code) and consider the following factors:

- ◆ The degree to which the project provides for the protection or improvement of water quality.
- ◆ The degree to which the project provides for protection or improvement of other aspects of the natural ecosystem such as fish, wildlife, or natural beauty.
- ◆ The availability of public access to, and public use of the lakes.
- ◆ The degree to which the proposed project complements other lake and watershed management efforts including local comprehensive plans developed pursuant to s. 66.1001, Wis. Stats.
- ◆ The level of support for the project from other affected management units.
- ◆ The likelihood of the project to successfully meet the stated project objectives.
- ◆ The degree of detail in the application and the time frame within which it will be implemented.
- ◆ Whether it is a first-time protection project for the lake or first-time classification project for the sponsor.

**Eligible Types of Projects:** Grants are available for the purchase of land or easements, restoration of wetlands and shoreline habitat, development of local regulations or ordinances to protect water quality, lake protection or lake restoration projects implementing department-approved recommendations in a plan, and lake classification projects. (Lake classification projects are available only to counties.)

**Applications:** From DNR regional Lake Coordinators or DNR regional Environmental Grants Specialists. Applications need to be received in the regional offices by May 1 of each year.

**History:** Since the inception of this program, over \$18.5 million have been awarded for lake protection grants.

**Contacts:** For questions about eligible projects, contact the appropriate DNR regional Lake Coordinator; see pages 92-93. For questions about eligible project costs, contact the appropriate DNR regional Environmental Grants Specialists; see pages 95-98.

**Website:**     <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/bureau/programs.html>  
                      <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/Grants/index.html>